

Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 /034 W

-----021743 281143Z /20

P 280555Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5217

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 12577

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PAK, EAID, EAGR

SUB: PAKISTAN'S CAPABILITY TO HANDLE PL-480 TITLE I WHEAT

REF: A. TOFAS 160

B. TOFAS 161

C. ISLAMABAD 12208

D. KABUL 8872

BEGIN SUMMARY: GOP HAS DECIDED TO PURCHASE 200,000 TONS WHEAT ON COMMERCIAL TERMS FROM US BRINGING TOTAL PROJECTED IMPORTS TO ABOUT 900,000 FOR PERIOD NOVEMBER 77 THROUGH MAY 78. BY SCHEDULING DELIVERY AT RATE OF 200,000 PER MONTH AND BY MAKING A SEPARATE (AND ADDITIONAL) BERTH AVAILABLE AS NECESSARY TO HANDLE AFGHAN IMPORTS, WE BELIEVE GOP HAS MADE ADEQUATE PROVISION FOR PORT HANDLING OF BOTH PAKISTAN'S AND AFGHANISTAN'S PROJECTED WHEAT IMPORTS. END SUMMARY.

1. DECEMBER 26 THE JOINT SECRETARY, FOOD DIVISION INFORMED AG. ATT. AND USAID THAT PAK EMBASSY/WASHINGTON HAS ADVISED GOP THAT USDA IS HOLDING UP ISSUANCE OF P.A. ON PL -480 TITLE I WHEAT FOR PAKISTAN PENDING CLARIFICATION OF PAKISTAN'S ABILITY TO RECEIVE COMMODITIES WITHOUT EXPERIENCING UNCLASSIFIED

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UNDUE SPOILAGE AND WASTE. IN VIEW OF THIS DELAY AND RECENT INFORMATION THAT SUGGESTS PAKISTAN WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL 100,000 TONS WHEAT FROM AUSTRALIA IN JANUARY AS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED, GOP HAS DECIDED TO IMMEDIATELY ENTER US MARKET FOR 200,000 TONS WHEAT FROM AUSTRALIA IN JANUARY AS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED, GOP HAS DECIDED TO IMMEDIATELY ENTER US MARKET FOR 200,000 TONS WHEAT. (REF. A). THIS IS IN

ADDITION TO 200,000 TONS TITLE I WHEAT AND 150,000 TONS OF WHEAT UNDER CCC FINANCING.

2. GOP REMAINS COMMITTED TO IMPORTING AROUND 1 MILLION GONS OF WHEAT THIS YEAR AND INTENDS TO SCHEDULE ARRIVALS AT KARACHI PORT AT RATE OF 200,000 TONS PER MONTH. SUBJECT TO TIMING OF ACTUAL AVAILABILITIES, IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES ARE ENVISIONED BY THE GOP AS FOLLOWS:

SCHEDULE	SOURCE	STATUS (000 TONS)	QUANTITY
NOV.-JAN.	AUSTRALIA COMMERCIAL	SHIPMENT IN	200
	TERMS	PROGRESS	
JAN.	AUSTALIA GRANT	DELIVER Y REQUESTED	21
	FINANCED	PRIOR TO FEB.	
FEB.	USA COMMERCIAL	IMMEDIATE PURCHASE	200
	PURCHASE	AUTHORIZED	
MARCH	USA TITLE I	PL-480 AGREEMENT	200
	AND/OR CCC	SIGNED,CCC APPROVED	
APRIL	USA TITLE I	PL-480 AGREEMENT	150
	AND/OR CCC	SIGNED,CCC APPROVED	

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APRIL/MAY	TURKEY	UNDER CONSIDERATION	100
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MAY	FAC	UNDER NEGOTIATION	35
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3. AS REFLECTED IN ABOVE DELIVERY SCHEDULE, GOP CONTINUE TO REGARD 200,000 TONS PER MONTH AS A REASONABLE SAFE UPPER LIMIT OF KARACHI PORT FACILITIES ASSUMING TWO BERTHS ARE EMPLOYED ON A FULL-TIME BASIS FOR COTINUOUS OFF LOADING (SEE REF. C PARA 4).

4. FYI: JOINT SECRETARY EXPECTS DISCHARGE RATE AT KARACHI PORT TO AVERAGE 7,000 TO 8,000 TONS PER WORK DAY BY EMPLOYING TWO BERTHS. HOWEVER, GOP INTENDS TO ISSUE SHIPPING CONTRACTS WHICH GUARANTEE AVERAGE DISCHARGE RATE OF 2,000 TONS PER WHEATHER WORKING DAY PER BERTH. THIS IS TO COVER ANY LAYDAYS BEFORE THE SHIP GETS INTO BERTH.

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ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 COME-00 CIAE-00

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-----021815 281142Z /20

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5218

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

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PASS AGRICULTURE

5. TO MEET CONCERNS ABOUT POTENTIAL PORT HANDLING PROBLEMS ARISING FROM WHEAT IMPORTS BY AFGHANISTAN DURING THIS SAME PERIOD, JOINT SECRETARY- FOOD TOLD US THAT HIGH LEVEL DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN TO MAKE A SEPARATE (THIRD) BERTH AVAILABLE AS NEEDED TO HANDLE AFGHAN WHEAT ARRIVALS. IN HIS OPINION, ROAD TRANSPORT FROM PESHAWAR RAILHEAD ONWARD TO AFGHANISTAN IS MOST LIKELY TO BE BOTTLENECK IN PAKISTAN PORTION OF DELIVERY NETWORK RATHER THAN KARACHI PORT. (THIS CONFORMS WITH U.S. EMBASSY/KABUL'S JUDGMENT, REF. D).

6. GIVEN CARE WITH WHICH GOP APPEARS TO BE SCHEDULING ITS WHEAT IMPORTS, THE DECISION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BERTH FACILITIES FOR ALL AFGHAN WHEAT IMPORTS DURING NEXT 5 MONTHS AND A PRUDENT ESTIMATE OF THE KARACHI PORT'S HANDLING CAPABILITIES, WE BELIEVE THAT GOP IS MAKING ADEQUATE PROVISIONS FOR HANDLING PL-480 AND OTHER IMPORTS DURING JANUARY-MAY PERIOD.

7. PLEASE ADVISE IMMEDIATELY IF ADDITIONAL CONCERNS EXIST WHICH MAY DELAY P.A. ISSUANCE FOR PL-480 TITLE I WHEAT. NOTE THAT AG. ATT. HAS CALLED USDA'S ATTENTION TO REF. C IN REF.B.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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